

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5377

INFO USMISSION BERLIN IMMEDIATE

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 15466

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, ETRN, MOPS, WB, US, GE, UR, UK, FR

SUBJECT: SEABOARD WORLD AIRLINES CHARTER FLIGHT

SCHOENEFELDTO WASHINGTON

REFS: STATE 206234

1. AS REQUESTED, EMBASSY HAS INFORMED BRITISH AND FRENCH OF PROPOSED FLIGHT AND HAS OBTAINED THEIR VIEWS. WE HAVE NOT DISCUSSED THIS MATTER WITH FRG.

2. FRENCH HAVE NO FUNDAMENTAL PROBLEM WITH FLIGHT BUT PREFER CORRIDOR ROUTING ON GROUNDS THAT THIS THE ONLY APPROPRIATE ROUTE FOR ALLIED AIRCRAFT TO ENTER BCZ. AT SAME TIME, FRENCH HAVE INDICATED THEY WOULD HAVE (IN VIEW OF FAURE FLIGHT) NO GROUNDS FOR COMPLAINT SHOULD THE FLIGHT USE THE NORTH-SOUTH ROUTE.

3. BRITISH, NOTING THEY DON'T LIKE IDEA OF ANY ALLIED FLIGHT TO SCHOENEFELD, HAVE REPORTED THEY PREPARED TO GO ALONG ON BASIS: (A) THE FLIGHT SHOULD NOT BE
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REGARDED A PRECEDENT FOR "NORMAL" COMMERCIAL FLIGHTS;

(B) A BONN GROUP STUDY ON QUESTION OF ALLIED FLIGHTS TO SCHOENEFELD SHOULD BE UNDERTAKEN TO AVOID AD HOC HANDLING OF MATTER IN FUTURE; AND (C) THE NORTH-SOUTH ROUTE IS PREFERRED SINCE THIS WOULD NOT REPEAT NOT PUT ALLIES IN POSITION OF EXPLICITLY TAKING COGNIZANCE OF "IMPROPER" PROCEDURE WHEREBY AN AIRCRAFT WOULD LAND AT AN AIRPORT WITHIN BCZ WHILE NOT UNDER CONTROL OF THE BASC. A CORRIDOR FLIGHT WITH TRANSFER OF CONTROL TO SCHOENEFELD FOR LANDING WOULD AMOUNT, SAY THE BRITISH, TO A WAIVER BY THE ALLIES OF THE "CORRECT" PROCEDURE FOR ALLIED AIRCRAFT, I.E. REMAINING UNDER BASC CONTROL UNTIL AIRCRAFT ON GROUND AT ANY AIRPORT WITHIN BCZ.

4. COMMENT: WE ARE OF VIEW THAT NORTH-SOUTH ROUTE IS PREFERABLE. PARTICULARLY AFTER PRECEDENT OF FAURE FLIGHT, INSISTENCE ON CORRIDOR ROUTE WOULD SEEM TO AMOUNT TO SELF-DENIAL OF POSSIBILITY FOR ALLIED AIRCRAFT TO LAND AT SCHOENEFELD. NORTH-SOUTH ROUTE ALSO HAS FEWER VARIABLES NOT UNDER OUR CONTROL, AND IS RELATIVELY SIMPLE. COMPLICATING FACTORS FOR CORRIDOR ROUTE, ON OTHER HAND, INCLUDE POSSIBLE SOVIET ATTEMPT TO STAMP FILE CARD WITH NOTATION TO EFFECT THAT FLIGHT HAS GDR CONCURRENCE AND POSSIBLE SCHOENEFELD ATTEMPT TO TAKE OVER FLIGHT CONTROL EARLY IN BCZ OR EVEN IN CORRIDOR. REGARDING BRITISH POINTS, WE BELIEVE THEY WILL NOT BE DIFFICULT FOR US AND, ON THIS ASSUMPTION, WE CONSIDER THE BRITISH AND FRENCH RESPONSES TO BE EQUIVALENT TO AGREEMENT WITHOUT NECESSITY OF FURTHER DISCUSSION.
HILLENBRAND

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